be around US$ 1.5 billion. The Indian Embassy at Muscat has conducted an extensive survey to assess the damage to the property of Indians and its full extent is being ascertained. However, as per the preliminary assessment, the lost/ damaged properties include household items, vehicles, machine and tools and few cases of loss of jewellery and cash have also been reported.

On 7th June, 2007, two Round-the-Clock Control Rooms were set up one each in the Embassy of India, Muscat and the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi for collecting and collating information and for responding to queries of the general public. The telephone numbers of the Control Rooms were immediately flashed in the audio, visual and print media. The Control Rooms received more than 2500 enquires from India and abroad regarding the welfare of Indians in Oman and most of the enquiries were responded to by the control room officials after confirmation and verification of the information sought. The Control Rooms were functional till mid-June, 2007.

Our Embassy, in coordination with the Local government and the Indian Community in Oman, was instrumental in planning and implementation of the rescue and relief operations for the Indians affected by the cyclone. Three hubs were established in the Muscat. Municipality area for receipt and distribution of relief material besides one each in the cities of Sur and Qurriyat to assist the affected Indians in these cities and adjacent interiors. Under the supervision of the Embassy food, drinking water, ration, medicines, clothing and beds were supplied to needy Indians in sufficient number in far-flung areas of Oman besides in Muscat. Two teams of doctors were also sent to various areas to conduct preliminary check-up of the affected people and distribute medicines. The Embassy also sent special teams to the main cities and areas affected by the hurricane to study the situation and provide necessary assistance to the local Indian Population. Indian schools we're also opened to shelter the displaced Indians.

Simultaneously, rescue operations were also launched and stranded Indians were rescued as and when information about them was received. After these relief operations, the Embassy also started a drive for rehabilitation of the Indian Community in Oman, especially the weaker sections. On the initiative of the Embassy, the Indian community rose to the occasion and they raised voluntary donations from the local community and also decided to help those self-employed workers whose machines/tools had been damaged during cyclone. These self-employed Indians who lost/damaged their tools or machines during the cyclone are being given relief vouchers ranging from RO. 25/- (US $ 65) to RO. 500/ -(US$1300). Embassy has also renewed more than 7400 Indian passports, which were damaged/lost during cyclone without charging any fee. The same was done in a record time of one and a half month. All necessary assistance was also provided to those desirous of returning to India.

Central schemes and centrally sponsored schemes

*170. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the difference between Central Schemes and Centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) the number of schemes under each of the two categories;

(c) the institutional mechanism to implement such schemes;

(d) the modes of financial delegation and financial sharing with the States under the above two categories; and

(e) the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for Central schemes and Centrally sponsored schemes, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) (a) and (c) The Centre Sector (CS) Schemes are those which deal with the subjects in the Union List and are funded and implemented by Central Ministry/Department or its agency. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) are those schemes which do not pertain to the subjects in the Union List but which are funded directly by Central Ministries/Departments and are implemented by States or their agencies irrespective of their pattern of financing.

(b) There were 993 Central Sector Schemes and 99 Centrally Sponsored Schemes in operation during 2007-08 as per Statement of Budget Estimates (SBEs).

(d) The percentage share of State and Central contribution in the Centrally Sponsored Schemes varies from scheme to scheme depending upon the nature and the objectives to be achieved. Central Sector Schemes are fully funded by the Union Government.

(e) Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms have been created at different levels of Central and State Governments as part of the programme guidelines of each scheme.

Threat posed by climatic changes

*171. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious threat posed by the current climate changes like extremes of temperatures, skewed distribution of rainfall etc; and

(b) whether any study is being carried out to estimate the consequence for tropical countries, particularly India and measures required to ensure food security and sufficiency in food grains, dairy, fruit and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of India are seized of the various concerns that may arise due to climate change. The Government has also set up an Expert Committee on Impacts of Climate Change. The Terms of Reference of the Committee are as under:

(i) To study the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on India.

(ii) To identify the measures that we may have to take in the future in relation to addressing vulnerability to anthropogenic climate change impacts.

(iii) Any other matter relevant to (i) and (ii) above.